YART Current Fiction May 2016

All the Major Constellations by Pratima Cranse (Viking, 2015)

Andrew is leaving high school behind and looking ahead to a fresh start at college and distance from his not-so-secret infatuation: Laura Lettel. But when a terrible accident leaves him without the companionship of his two best friends, Andrew is cast adrift and alone--until Laura unexpectedly offers him comfort, friendship, and the support of a youth group of true believers, fundamentalist Christians with problems and secrets of their own. Andrew is curiously drawn to their consuming beliefs, but why? Is it only to get closer to Laura? And is Laura genuinely interested in Andrew, or is she just trying to convert him?

Aptitude by Natalie Corbett Sampson (Fierce Ink Books, 2015)

When the city authorities pick up Hessa she's left with two horrific facts: A man she loves is dead. It was her fault. Set in a dystopian world where everyone has a role to fulfill and no one is given a choice, Aptitude is the story of a young woman's struggle to decide between two men - one that society chose for her, and one she's fallen in love with.

Booked by Kwame Alexander (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2016)

Twelve-year-old Nick loves soccer and hates books, but soon learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams.

Burn Baby Burn by Meg Medina (Candlewick Press, 2016)

Nora Lopez is seventeen during the summer of 1977, when New York is besieged by arson, a massive blackout, and a serial killer named Son of Sam. Meg Medina transports us to a time when tempers and temperatures ran high to share the story of a young woman who discovers that the greatest dangers are often closer than we like to admit.

Dan Versus Nature by Dan Calame (Candlewick Press, 2016)

Dan spends his time creating graphic novels inspired by his dream girl and looking out for his mom as she dates every man in the state of California. Then his mom drops a bomb: she and her latest beau, Hank, are engaged, and she's sending her "two favorite men" on a survivalist camping trip to "bond." Determined to trick Hank into showing his true -- flawed -- colors on the trip, Dan and his nerdy germaphobe best friend, Charlie, prepare a series of increasingly gross and embarrassing pranks. But when things go awry can Dan see his plan through if his very survival depends on Hank?

Essential Maps For the Lost by Deb Caletti (Simon Pulse, 2016)

When Mads discovers a dead body while she's swimming in the lake, she begins to obsess over who the woman was and what led her to commit suicide by jumping off a bridge. But when she starts to fall for Billy, the woman's troubled son, Mads isn't sure how much longer she can keep her obsession a secret.

Everything, Everything by Nicola Yoon (Delacourte Press, 2015)

The story of a teenage girl who's literally allergic to the outside world. When a new family moves in next door, she begins a complicated romance that challenges everything she's ever known. The narrative unfolds via vignettes, diary entries, texts, charts, lists, illustrations, and more.

Exit, Pursued By a Bear by E.K. Johnston (Dutton Books, 2016)

At cheerleading camp, Hermione is drugged and raped, but she is not sure whether it was one of her teammates or a boy on another team--and in the aftermath she has to deal with the rumors in her small

Ontario town, the often awkward reaction of her classmates, the rejection of her boyfriend, the discovery that her best friend, Polly, is gay, and above all the need to remember what happened so that the guilty boy can be brought to justice.

Finding Audrey by Sopia Kinsella (Delacourte Press, 2015)

Fourteen-year-old Audrey is making slow but steady progress dealing with her anxiety disorder when Linus comes into the picture and her recovery gains momentum.

Fiendish by Brenna Yovanoff (Razorbill, 2014)

Clementine DeVore, seventeen, is determined to learn what happened ten years ago that led to her magical imprisonment and problems in her town, but a dangerous attraction to Fisher, the boy who freed her, town politics, and the terrifying Hollow get in the way.

The Haters by Jesse Andrews (Amulet, 2016)

For Wes and his best friend, Corey, jazz camp turns out to be lame. It's pretty much all dudes talking in Jazz Voice. But then they jam with Ash, a charismatic girl with an unusual sound, and the three just click. It's three and a half hours of pure musical magic, and Ash makes a decision: They need to hit the road. Because the road, not summer camp, is where bands get good. Before Wes and Corey know it, they're in Ash's SUV heading south, and The Haters Summer of Hate Tour has begun.

No True Echo by Gareth Jones (Amulet, 2015)

Teenaged Eddie meets a new girl who is a Senior Echo Time Agent from the future, come to his town to investigate the origin of time travel. Soon Eddie is swept up in the investigation and in time. But time travel is a dangerous business, and Eddie will learn more than he wants to know about his long-dead mother.

The Passion of Dolssa by Julie Berry (Viking, 2016)

In mid-thirteenth century Provence, Dolssa de Stigata is a fervently religious girl who feels the call to preach, condemned by the Inquisition as an "unnatural woman," and hunted by the Dominican Friar Lucien who fears a resurgence of the Albigensian heresy; Botille is a matchmaker trying to protect her sisters from being branded as gypsies or witches--but when she finds the hunted Dolssa dying on a hillside, she feels compelled to protect her, a decision that may cost her everything.

Rescued by Eliot Schrefer (Scholastic Press, 2016)

When John was ten years old his father brought back a baby orangutan from Indonesia, and Raja quickly becomes John's "brother" and responsibility--so years later, after his parents divorce, and his father has sold Raja to a roadside zoo, John sets out to rescue him and bring him to a sanctuary in Indonesia.

Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys (Philomel Books, 2016)

World War II is drawing to a close in East Prussia and thousands of refugees are on a desperate trek toward freedom, many with something to hide. Among them are Joana, Emilia, and Florian, whose paths converge en route to the ship that promises salvation, the *Wilhelm Gustloff*. Forced by circumstance to unite, the three find their strength, courage, and trust in each other tested with each step closer to safety. Just when it seems freedom is within their grasp, tragedy strikes. Not country, nor culture, nor status matter as all ten thousand people—adults and children alike—aboard must fight for the same thing: survival.

The Serpent King by Jeff Zenter (Crown Books, 2016)

The son of a Pentecostal preacher faces his personal demons as he and his two outcast friends try to make it through their senior year of high school in rural Forrestville, Tennessee without letting the small-town culture destroy their creative spirits and sense of self.

The Smell of Other People's Houses by Bonnie-Sue Hitchcock (Wendy Lamb Books, 2016) Growing up in Alaska in the 1970s isn't like growing up anywhere else: Don't think life is going to be easy. Know your place. And never talk about yourself. Four vivid voices tell intertwining stories of hardship, tragedy, wild luck, and salvation.

This is Where It Ends by Marieke Nijkamp (Sourcebooks Fire, 2016)

Minutes after the principal of Opportunity High School in Alabama finishes her speech welcoming the student body to a new semester, they discover that the auditorium doors will not open and someone starts shooting as four teens, each with a personal reason to fear the shooter, tell the tale from separate perspectives.

Up To This Pointe by Jennifer Longo (Random House, 2016)

Devastated when her dream of becoming a professional ballerina falls through, seventeen-year-old Harper Scott takes a job as a research assistant, wintering over at McMurdo, a U.S. science station at the tip of Antarctica where, for the first time, she considers other possible futures.

Wink Poppy Midnight by April Genevieve Tucholke (Dial Books, 2016)

Every story needs a hero. Every story needs a villain. Every story needs a secret. Wink is the odd, mysterious neighbor girl, wild red hair and freckles. Poppy is the blond bully and the beautiful, manipulative high school queen bee. Midnight is the sweet, uncertain boy caught between them. Wink. Poppy. Midnight. Two girls. One boy. Three voices that burst onto the page in short, sharp, bewitching chapters, and spiral swiftly and inexorably toward something terrible or tricky or tremendous. What really happened? Someone knows. Someone is lying.

Winner's Kiss by Marie Rutkowski (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2016)

The East is pitted against the West, and Kestrel and Arin are caught between. In a game like this, can anybody really win?